



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



July 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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WISCONSIN, Southeast

Iowa County Mifflin	03	1448CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Green County 4 NE Monroe	03	1602CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Scattered thunderstorms, some of them severe, affected southcentral Wisconsin during the late afternoon hours. In two cases, powerful downburst winds toppled large trees and down power lines in Iowa and Green county.

WIZ052	Sheboygan								
	14	1100CST 2200CST			0	3			Excessive Heat

Three people in the city of Sheboygan were treated in local hospitals for heat exhaustion due to high temperatures around 90 after morning lows around 70 degrees and afternoon dewpoints in the 70s creating oppressive heat conditions.

Sauk County Baraboo	19	0123CST			0	0	3K		Lightning
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Iowa County 1 E Livingston	19	0150CST			0	0	100K	100K	Thunderstorm Wind
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Iowa County Dodgeville	19	0203CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Lafayette County Darlington to 3 ENE Fayette	19	0205CST 0220CST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Dane County 5 N Mt Horeb	19	0210CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Green County New Glarus	19	0230CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Rock County Evansville	19	0250CST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Rock County Beloit	19	0305CST			0	0	7K		Thunderstorm Wind
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WIZ072	Kenosha								
	19	1100CST 2300CST			0	10			Excessive Heat

A warm front spawned severe thunderstorms in the early morning across southcentral and southeast Wisconsin, resulting in downburst winds which toppled numerous trees and power lines. In addition, a sawmill was destroyed near Livingston in Iowa county and a camper was damaged by felled trees in Yellowstone State Park in Lafayette county. In Sauk county lightning struck a Baraboo home and started a house fire. Later that afternoon in the sweltering heat, 10 people suffered heat exhaustion at the Country Thunder musical festival near Twin Lakes (Kenosha Co.), and were treated at a local hospital. Afternoon temperatures in the lower 90s, dewpoints in the lower 70s and full sunshine were the afternoon weather conditions. exhaustion.

Racine County Union Grove	20	1552CST			0	0	2K		Lightning
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Dodge County Randolph	20	1615CST 1730CST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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Sauk County Plain	20	1640CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
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<u>WISCONSIN, Southeast</u>									
Jefferson County Waterloo	20	1707CST			0	0	1K		Thunderstorm Wind
Lafayette County 5 N Argyle	20	1710CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
Sauk County 3 W Lake Delton to Lake Delton	20	1710CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
Columbia County Poynette	20	1715CST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind
Lafayette County South Wayne	20	1715CST			0	0	4K		Thunderstorm Wind
Washington County West Bend	20	1715CST			0	0	262K		Lightning
Green County Monroe	20	1720CST			0	0	50K		Thunderstorm Wind
Jefferson County Johnson Creek	20	1720CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Dane County Oregon	20	1723CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Dane County Belleville	20	1750CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
Waukesha County Delafield to 2 E Waukesha	20	1750CST 1759CST			0	0	6K		Tstm Wind/Hail
Jefferson County Ixonia	20	1753CST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind
Rock County Clinton	20	1755CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G63)
Rock County Janesville	20	1756CST			0	0	50K		Lightning
Rock County Janesville to Milton	20	1758CST			0	0	100K		Thunderstorm Wind (G60)
Rock County Janesville	20	1800CST 1900CST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
Waukesha County Oconomowoc	20	1800CST			0	0	4K		Lightning
Walworth County Delavan	20	1803CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Milwaukee County Milwaukee	20	1810CST			0	1	1K		Thunderstorm Wind
Walworth County Lake Geneva	20	1815CST			0	2	1.5M		Thunderstorm Wind (G87)
Racine County Burlington	20	1820CST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind
Dane County Deerfield	20	1843CST			0	0	1K		Lightning



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WISCONSIN, Southeast

Kenosha County									
Silver Lake	20	1845CST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind
Fond Du Lac County									
Ripon to 1 N Waupun	20	2205CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind
Dodge County									
Theresa	20	2247CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind (G54)
Washington County									
Slinger	20	2302CST 2310CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Ozaukee County									
3 SW Port Washington	20	2340CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Ozaukee County									
Grafton	20	2345CST			0	0	10K		Lightning
Ozaukee County									
2.5 SW Port Washington	20	2351CST			0	0	8K		Lightning

Frontal induced severe thunderstorms downed trees and power lines over much of south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the evening hours. Hardest hit was the Lake Geneva (Walworth Co.) area where downburst winds leveled hundreds of large trees, several street signs, and a large quantity of commercial signs. A dozen vehicles were damaged or totaled and 2 homes sustained significant damage. A 100 mph wind was recorded at the Grand Geneva Airport and 2 people were injured (one in a moving vehicle). Local officials consider this to be the worst storm in 58 years. In Monroe (Green Co.), the powerful thunderstorm winds also damaged 6 vehicles and 2 homes. Elsewhere, hail, high winds, lightning, and torrential rains played havoc. In West Bend (Washington Co.), lightning ignited a fire in an apartment complex and caused a quarter of a million dollars in damage. Urban flooding in Janesville (Rock Co.) resulted in standing water between a foot to a foot and a half deep across area roadways. Wind damage was the most common culprit though with over 200 power lines downed and 17,000 customers without service in southeast Wisconsin and 10,000 residents left without power across south-central Wisconsin.

Walworth County									
Elkhorn to 4 E Spring Prairie	21	1210CST 1225CST			0	12	1.9M	105K	Thunderstorm Wind (G87)
Rock County									
Beloit	21	1220CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind
Walworth County									
Sharon to Walworth	21	1220CST 1230CST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind
Racine County									
Burlington to 5 SW Racine	21	1230CST 1315CST			0	1	250K		Thunderstorm Wind (G87)
Kenosha County									
Countywide	21	1235CST 1315CST			0	0	200K	200K	Thunderstorm Wind (G87)

Scattered thunderstorms developed in an unstable atmosphere over southcentral Wisconsin in the early afternoon hours. These storms quickly became severe and merged over Walworth County. Hurricane-force winds were generated over the north side of Elkhorn (Walworth Co.); and the resultant wind damage strongly suggests that winds gusts peaked in the 100 to 110 mph range. Officials in Elkhorn declared a state of emergency and asked for extra help with the cleanup, thanks to hundreds of downed trees and many power lines. Several Elkhorn downtown office buildings suffered some minor damage, while 6 buildings on the north side along Highway 67 had considerable damage (3-minor, 1 major, and 1 destroyed). Thirteen people were injured and 14 vehicles sustained damage. This wicked dowburst then traveled through rural farmland east to the Walworth county line, destroying 3 farm buildings in the process. Altogether, about 27,000 customers in Walworth County lost electrical power. Further east, this wet macroburst became wider and left a path of damage or destruction about 6 to 8 miles wide across northern Kenosha County and southern Racine County. In the Burlington area (Racine Co.), 300 trees were downed and many powerline or poles, leaving 15,000



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WISCONSIN, Southeast

customers were left without power. A plane tied down at the Burlington airport was tossed over, and rowboats on a local lake were damaged. Elsewhere in southern Racine County, traffic lights were damaged, the Great Lakes Dragway was closed, and the YMCA toboggan slide was destroyed. In Kenosha county 7 semi-trailer tractors were blown over on Interstate-94 west of Somers (Kenosha Co.)! The downburst swath in northern Kenosha County also damaged several corn fields, downed hundreds of trees, leveled a barn near Somers, and damaged several homes. One account was that the town of Somers looked like a bomb exploded ater the storms passed through.